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State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

355 West North Temple 3 Triad Center, Suite 350 Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203 801-538-5340

February 2, 1989

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED (P 879 596 387)

Mr. Robert Hagen, Director Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement Suite 310, Silver Square 625 Silver Avenue, S. W. Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Mr. Hagen:

Re: TDN X88-02-107-12-TV1, Co-Op Mining Company, Bear Canyon Mine, ACT/015/025, Folder #5, Emery County, Utah

Pursuant to your letter of January 27, 1989, received by the undersigned (designated contact) on February 1, 1989, the following is a request for an informal review of the position taken by the Albuquerque Field Office with respect to the inferred violation and that the referenced TDN was arbitrary and capricious.

Please consider the facts listed below in your review of this issue.

- 1. The discharge water is of culinary quality and did not come into contact with mining disturbed areas prior to issuance of the Ten-Day-Notice (TDN).
- 2. The Department of Health's informal position is that issuance of a UPDES discharge permit for culinary quality water does not serve a useful purpose.

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- 3. The U.S. Forest Service is disallowing issuance of a UPDES/NPDES discharge permit on or adjacent to forest service land at this time. Consequently, a waiver to the permit may be required.
- 4. Co-Op Mining Company has applied for the requisite permits.
- 5. Co-Op Mining Company is temporarily diverting this flow through the mine sedimentation pond, pending resolution of the UPDES permit issuance (this action results in degradation of the culinary quality of the discharged water).
- 6. The Division's actions have not compromised the environmental situation at the Co-Op Mine.

Should additional information be required, please advise.

Sincerely,

Lowell P. Braxton

Jamel P Brafto

Administrator

Mineral Resource Development and Reclamation Program

djh

cc: G. Hansen

D. R. Nielson

B. W. Roberts

K. May

J. Whitehead

P.F.O.

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RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL

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